

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1974
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2000
RATIONALISATION OF TAXES
Y.S. VIVEKANANDA REDDY

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Union Government have recommended rationalisation of taxes in the tourism sector;
- (b) if so, whether according to the Union Government, tax rates in various States show extreme variation which impede the growth of the sector;
- (c) if so, whether the proposal for rationalisation of taxes has been cleared by the Inter- State Council; and
- (d) if so, the details thereof and the time by which a final decision is likely to be taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI ANANTHKUMAR)

(a), (b), (c) & (d): The question of rationalisation of taxes in the tourist transport sector and the hotel industry has been discussed at the State Tourism Ministers Conference, the Transport Development Council, the regional meeting of the Interstate Council and at various other fora, since this is a deterrent to the development and promotion of tourism to India. No consensus has been possible so far with the State Governments.